

Hanover
Pinopolis vicinity
Berkeley County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-36
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of South Carolina
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey

Prepared at Washington Office
for Southeast Unit

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

HABS
S.C.

8. PINOPOLIS

12.

HANOVER

Pinopolis vicinity, Berkeley County, South Carolina

Owner: Santee-Cooper Hydroelectric and Navigation Project

Date of erection: 1716

Present condition: Very poor; in danger of inundation

Description:

Hanover has lost all except one of its early plantation buildings, and the encroaching woods and unkempt fields have destroyed its original landscape setting. The house, now very dilapidated, is of frame with huge external end chimneys. It is a story and a half high with gambrel roof and originally there was a full basement, but this has filled in so that there is no longer headroom. The house follows the familiar early colonial arrangement of a large room at one end of the front and a smaller room at the other. The center door enters at one end of the large room. This was an age-old plan, but until late in the seventeenth century such a house in the Colonies was always one room deep, an instance being the Wishart house (c. 1678) in Princess Anne County, Virginia. There does not seem to be any house in South Carolina of this earlier type, though Middleburg (1696) in Berkeley County has certain affinities to it. There is, however, a group of early eighteenth-century houses in South Carolina which preserves the "great hall" arrangement in plans two rooms deep. Examples are Brick House, Edisto Island; Mulberry; Limerick, etc. It is to this group that Hanover belongs, though the mannerisms of the Huguenot builder are so pronounced as to give the building a character entirely its own. It recalls the houses of Guadeloupe in the French West Indies, in its gambrel roof, wide spreading dormers, and in the detail of the woodwork. The placement of the chimneys of Hanover at the ends is also a variation from the South Carolina examples cited.

Unfortunately all of the original sash is gone and there are no old frames on the lower floor. It is impossible, therefore, to determine the character of the original sash, but it is more than possible that wood casements were used. There are examples in New Orleans in the Ursuline Convent and in the Guibourd house at Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. (See "A Guide to Ste. Genevieve," Mr. C. E. Peterson, 1940.) No other eighteenth-century examples of French provenance are known to the writer in this country, though once they must have been in widespread use. Many Dutch examples remain in the Hudson Valley.

The present sash is modern, three lights wide and four high,

and none of it has old trim or frames. In the dormer windows the shape of the almost square openings is original. It easily can be seen that double-casement sash would fit the openings admirably. The squareness of the dormers and their heavy pediment roofs are foreign to the architecture of the region of English background. The curious scrolled terminations of the headpieces were designed to receive the heavy horizontal cornices of the return. The shape of the main roof has a rather Gallic aspect, recalling roof lines in Martinique, Guadeloupe, and St. Croix. Certainly the house is an interesting blending of French and English forms and details.

The two end chimneys are particularly fine and have surprisingly medieval character. Each has three flues, one from each story. In building the stacks no attempt was made to achieve anything but a functional structure. The result is a pair of extremely interesting shafted chimneys with lateral and longitudinal weathered offsets. They are entirely built of large hand-made brick laid in Flemish bond, except in the upper shafts, where common bond is used. The caps are simply corbeled and have plastered neckings. In the east chimney is an incised inscription "Peu-a-Peu" said to have come from the old French quotation "Peu a Peu L'oiseau fait son nid."

The front door is a single valve 4 feet 2 inches wide and is paneled in the French style. There are two large horizontal panels separated by a narrow one in the center. This latter has a sunk panel mould, and the former very wide bevels covered with richly worked applied mouldings at the intersection with the rails and styles. The door is probably unique in this country and is so completely French in character as to be indistinguishable from a typical French door. That it might be imported was considered, but as it seems to be of yellow pine its local origin is indicated. The back of the door has the large panels subdivided by verticals set in to make it conform to the design of the single interior doors. The rear entrance is a double door, each leaf of which is paneled with a square panel between two verticals. This is characteristic of the region and period, Exeter (1726) having a pair only slightly different in proportion. In common with the windows, frames, and sash, some of the weatherboards are modern. The wood porch on the front is of recent origin, there probably being none originally.

The interior partitions are of unusual form, perhaps of French derivation, being paralleled by those of Middleburg. They are formed by vertical sheathing, covered with a series of vertical and horizontal battens forming pseudo-panels. Behind the sheathing are widely spaced studs to give it rigidity. In the north wall is a cupboard with arched paneled doors, and in the rear hall an open corner cupboard.

All of the original trim on the inside of the outside walls has perished, suggesting that the walls may have been plastered. The mantels in the front rooms are similar, an architrave surround supporting a narrow frieze and cornice. They would seem to date from about 1800. The stair, ascending with winders from the east of the rear door, has no architectural trim. The great chimneys, due to their position, serve only the front rooms, the rear rooms having no means of heating. The location of the chimneys between the front and rear rooms at North Hampton, Mulberry, and Brick House obviates this condition, and this latter placement became typical of the region.

The attic is interesting as being entirely sheathed with wood. The exterior walls and soffit of the roof are covered with horizontal boards, some of which are lapped in the reverse manner of weatherboards, evidently to prevent rain from penetrating. The inside partitions are of vertical boards, fixed to the sheathed ceiling and to the floor. Where doors occur they are hung on jamb studs that extend from floor to ceiling and have a head piece, mortised and tenoned in at the level of the top of the battened door. About 3 feet 6 inches above the floor are horizontal members, fixed between the jamb studs and the roof timbers to stabilize the boards of the vertical sheathing.

--From "A Survey of the Early Buildings in the Region of the Proposed Santee and Pinopolis Reservoirs in South Carolina," by Thomas T. Waterman

Other existing records:

Stoney, S. G., Plantations of the Carolina Low Country

Author: T. Waterman

Approved: 10/11/40

HABS No. SC-36

Date of erection: 1720

Present condition: To be removed to Clemson College

Historical Data:

About the time that the House of Hanover came to the throne, Paul de Saint Julien, who built the house and gave his plantation its topical name, with a number of his relatives and co-religionists took up grants or bought land along the rich inland swamps that drain from the Middle Beut of Saint John's into the Cooper River. The neighborhood was so continuously predominated by their descendants, that up to a few years ago, two men of unmixed Huguenot blood, the last of their kind in the Low Country, still planted there.

The house at Hanover represents the achievement of a people who had come from persecution, started at scratch in a new country, and in the face of prejudice, came to prosperity. The words PEU A PEU engraved in the band at the top of one of the massive chimneys are the beginning of the French saying, "Peu a peu l'oiseau fait son nid" meaning: Little by little the bird builds his nest. The house remained in the family until sold by Mrs. John Saint Clair White nearly two hundred years later.

Bibliography:

Stoney, Samuel Gaillard, - Plantations of the Carolina Low Country Charleston, Carolina Art Association, 1938.

L. H. H. H.

THW 6/28/41

Hanover
(Paul de St. Julien Plantation)
(moved to SC, Clemson, Clemson University Campus)
Pinopolis Vicinity
Berkeley County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-36

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12 -

Addendum to

Hanover
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

page 5
of 10

HABS
SC
8-PINOPOLIS
12-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE South Carolina	COUNTY Berkeley	TOWN OR VICINITY Pinopolis Vicinity
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Hanover		HABS NO. SC-36
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Paul de St. Julien Plantation		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) moved to Clemson, South Carolina, Clemson University Campus		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1716	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Early plantation house		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Wood frame with clapboards		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) One and-a-half stories, 35'9" x 30'1"		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Gambrel shingled roof, brick foundation, three dormer windows equally spaced on front and rear of house		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Two unequal front rooms		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The house was dismantled and moved in 1941 to Clemson University Campus. During re-assembly the house was also restored (1941-1944).		
PRESENT CONOITION AND USE Historic House Museum		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Melissa McDonald HABS Historian		DATE 8-8-83